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COUNTY BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Principal

School Medical Officer

FOR YEAR 1958

JAMES GRANT, M.D. Ch.B., D.P.H.
(GLASGOW)

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND
PRINCIPAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER



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STAFF OF SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.

Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer				JAMES GRANT, M.D., CH.B., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Senior School Medical Officer				MARGARET B. HERBST, M.D., B.S., B.H.V., D.P.H. (retired on 17-3-58). JEAN M. BAINBRIDGE, M.B., B.S., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H. (appointed 18-3-58).
School Medical Officers (and Assistant M.O's.H.)				JEAN M. BAINBRIDGE, M.B., B.S., D.R.C.O.G. (to 17-3-58). EDWIN I. BLENKINSOP, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. (resigned 21-10-58). MARY J. MOSSMAN, M.B., B.S., D.R.C.O.G. MILLICENT W. PAYNE, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. (commenced 1-4-58). TERENCE W. L. KNAGGS, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. (commenced 1-8-58).
Ophthalmic Surgeons (part-time) .				*H. V. INGRAM, M.B., B.S., D.O.M.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. *J. S. ARKLE, F.R.C.S.
Orthopaedic Surgeon (part-time) ..				†A. E. BREMNER, M.B., CH.B., F.R.C.S.
Physiotherapist (part-time) ...				Mrs. J. M. PICKARD, M.C.S.P., O.H.C., H.T. (commenced 13-10-58).
Remedial Gymnast (part-time) ...				†T. D. MIDGLEY, M.S.R.G.
Orthoptist				Miss J. F. MAUGHAN, D.B.O. (resigned 30-6-58). Miss E. P. RUDD, D.B.O. (commenced 15-9-58).
Speech Therapist				Miss M. BARNES.
Principal School Dental Officer ...				JOSEPH WHITEHOUSE, L.D.S.
Dental Officers				Miss TERESA M. ROSSI, B.D.S.; HENRY D. NORRIS, B.D.S.; Mrs. I. F. JONES, L.D.S.; BHOPINDER S. NARU, L.D.S. (temporary, part-time).
Dental Attendants				Miss M. CESSFORD, Miss E. E. GRASS (terminated 8-10-58), Miss S. P. THOMPSON, Mrs. E. DANBY, Miss P. A. BAGNALL (resigned 24-6-58), Miss P. SMITH (resigned 14-8-58). Miss E. I. CARTER (appointed 21-7-58), Mrs. H. TYRRELL (appointed 1-9-58).
Dental Technicians				T. W. CURTIS, J. GILHOME.
Health Visitors and School Nurses				C. ROBSON (Supt.), I. BRADLEY, M. DAGLISH, D. C. JOHNSON, E. WISE, M. CRAGGS, E. POWLEY, J. TURN- BULL, S. W. ATKINSON, A. MULLEN, R. GARDNER, S. GILLEY, N. M. BELL, E. BAXTER, M. FAIRS, P. L. TROTTER (resigned 31-3-58), J. J. DUNCAN (resigned 9-8-58), M. McMANEMY, M. M. CUNNINGHAM (commenced 1-11-58), M. B. MAIN (from 29-6-58).
Nursing Assistants				M. COATES, W. CRAIG, P. M. JACK- SON.
Clerical Staff				N. CRAIG, Miss E. M. JONES, Miss M. ATKINSON, Mrs. M. WATSON, Miss M. H. JOBES, Miss E. GILHESPIE.

* Provide service under Supplementary Ophthalmic Treatment Regulations.

† Indicates by arrangement with the Newcastle upon Tyne Regional Hospital Board.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
PRINCIPAL
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER
FOR THE YEAR 1958.

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee.

In spite of the difficulties relating to staffing, the year under review in this report has not been unsatisfactory.

The aim of the school medical service is not simply the obvious one of trying to ensure that all the children of school age are healthy, but rather the more narrow objective of securing that every child of school age should be educated to the maximum of his or her potential, in spite of any handicap or disability. In the great majority of children, the narrow and broad ideals coincide, but it is sometimes exceedingly difficult to fulfil the aims of the school medical service for every child included in the very small proportion of the school population who come under the attribute of "handicapped". The local educational provisions of the Education Committee are sufficient and satisfactory for the broad classes of the handicapped, but there are great difficulties of placing whenever a child is found to require special education because of multiple defects or presents behaviour problems as a maladjusted child. Although it was hoped that child guidance facilities would materialise through the north eastern local education authorities acting in concert, it is to be regretted that nothing has yet been done, if we except the opening of the "Tiverlands" Child Guidance Centre, under the joint auspices of the University Department of Psychological Medicine and the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board. The main purpose of this child guidance centre is to train workers in the child guidance field, but already the facilities are so much in demand that there is an exceedingly long waiting time before any case can be dealt with.

Another matter of regret is the slowness in development of the local services for the education of the partially deaf child by normal methods making use of hearing aids. It is now generally thought possible to take advantage of that modicum of hearing which is usually present in the congenitally deaf person in the first years of life.

In the Chief Medical Officer's report on the health of the school child during the years 1956 and 1957, a table is included showing the numbers of children per thousand found at routine

inspection to present defects of the skin, heart, lungs, squint, running ear and hernia. In this tabulation Gateshead emerges very high indeed on the list. This is to be taken as an indication of efficiency rather than of ill-health, for the school medical service in Gateshead is part of a unified system whereby the same doctors, health visitors and clerical staff follow children from birth through the pre-school years into the years of school life, recording fully every anomaly of health that is brought to notice. Such reliable information is not wasted for, in the case of children with defects likely to interfere with certain forms of employment, the information is passed to the Juvenile Employment Bureau and so too children with borderline or obvious mental subnormality are noted for further supervision.

This report cannot be presented without reference to the preventive functions of the school medical service, whereby immunisation against the common killing and disabling diseases has become an important part of school medical activity. In 1958, it is gratifying to note the very large number of children who have been completely immunised against poliomyelitis, for much of this work was carried out through the schools, as also was the work of the B.C.G. Immunisation Scheme against tuberculosis and the arrangements for ' booster ' injections against diphtheria.

In conclusion, it is necessary once again to state that the work has only been possible through the friendly co-operation of the Director of Education, his deputy, his administrative and welfare staff and the active assistance of the teachers of the borough schools. To the success of this work the hospital consultant and the general practitioners of the area have contributed by making use of the school medical service in the follow-up of children with health problems as well as by informing the school doctors of their findings. Finally, I must thank the professional and clerical staff who have done the work detailed in this report and in particular cite the name of Dr. Bainbridge, who has so well filled the shoes of her predecessor, Dr. Margaret Herbst, and has been mainly responsible for the compilation of this report.

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES GRANT,

*Medical Officer of Health and
Principal School Medical Officer.*

1. STAFF.

There were several changes in the school medical and nursing staff during the year. Dr. Herbst, who was Deputy Medical Officer

of Health, resigned in March and was succeeded by Dr. Bainbridge, whose place was taken temporarily by Dr. Millicent Payne. Dr. Blenkinsop left the Gateshead service in October, on his promotion to another post in the south, while Dr. Knaggs commenced his duties on the 1st August.

There were also changes in the personnel of the health visiting staff. Miss Trotter resigned on the 31st March and Mrs. Duncan left the service on the 9th August. Their places were taken by Miss Main, who completed the student health visitor's course in June and took up duties as a qualified health visitor on the 29th June, and Miss Cunningham who returned to the staff in November, after a period of service in Malta.

2. CO-ORDINATION.

The medical, nursing and dental staff of the Local Authority are common to the school medical and maternity and child welfare services where the health visitors find serious defects among the young children, the names and other particulars are passed on to the school medical service at the age of two years, so that the school medical officers may have an early opportunity of assessing the defects and deciding whether special education is likely to be necessary. The local arrangements provide for continuity of supervision of the health of the children from infancy to the end of school life.

3. SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

There were no new schools opened in Gateshead during 1958.

4. SCHOOL MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The number of children on the school registers at the end of 1958 was 17,159. Of these, 4,957 were examined at the periodic inspections.

Entrant Group	... ..	1,714
Intermediate Group. (Born 1948.)		1,799
Leaver Age Group. (Born 1944.)	...	1,444
Additional Periodic Examinations	...	—
		<hr/>
		4,957
		<hr/>

Outside these age groups, 361 examinations were done. 2,533 (53.1%) of the parents attended at the examination.

5. ASSESSMENT OF GENERAL CONDITION.

During the periodic examinations children were classified as

Satisfactory	98.87%
Unsatisfactory	1.13%

The condition of the children was better than last year, when 1.24% were classified as of poor nutrition.

6. ASCERTAINMENT OF DEFECTS.

(a) Cleanliness.

There were no children with body lice. 5 children examined by the school medical officers had head vermin, and on 342 children nits were recorded. 11 children were flea-bitten and 32 found to be dirty.

School nurses doing cleanliness surveys reported one child with body vermin, 98 children with head vermin and 1,551 having nits present. The nurses made 53,607 examinations.

(b) Skin Condition.

From the periodic inspections and from children attending the minor ailments clinics, those requiring treatment for skin conditions were:—

Impetigo	89
Ringworm scalp	1
Ringworm body	—
Scabies	33
Eczema and dermatitis	17
Minor skin conditions	451

(c) Visual Defects.

The eyesight of all the 8-year-old children is tested by school nurses. During the year, 1,417 were tested and of these 213 were found to require refraction and 226 were kept under observation. At routine medical inspections, 695 children were found to require treatment, and a further 192 were kept under observation. 160 children were found to have squints requiring treatment.

At special inspections, either at the clinic or in schools, a further 231 children were found to require treatment. 302 were kept under observation, and another 13 were found to be suffering from squint.

It is very important that eye defects should be found and treated at the earliest possible time; 71 cases of external eye disease were seen at school during routine inspections and 115 at minor ailments clinics.

(d) Nasopharyngeal Disease.

Enlarged tonsils and adenoids were recorded in 880 children, of whom 66 required treatment; 280 children had palpable neck glands, 12 of which required treatment. The remaining 267 were kept under observation. Nasal catarrh occurred in 31 of the children seen: 10 required treatment and the remaining 21 were kept under observation.

(e) Ear Conditions.

Chronic otitis media was present in 62 children of the 204 having subnormal hearing; 43 were referred for audiometer testing or for treatment. 57 children had wax in their ears.

(f) Dental Defects.

Among 4,957 children examined, 1,375 were found to be suffering from dental caries, and in 45 this was extensive. 26 had dirty teeth.

(g) Postural Defects.

39 were referred for treatment, against 54 last year. In addition 48 were referred for observation.

255 cases of foot defects were referred for remedial treatment and 296 for observation. 5 cases of hallux valgus were referred for treatment and 11 for observation.

(h) Heart Disease and Rheumatism.

158 children were recorded as having heart lesions. 24 required treatment and 134 were kept under observation. The majority of cases were of minor importance. There were 2 cases of acute rheumatism.

(i) Tuberculosis.

B.C.G. vaccination was again offered to children approaching school-leaving age. This offer was accepted on behalf of 59.37% of children. This, a drop from the previous year, when it was 68.5%, is disappointing.

Children born in 1944.

Number offered vaccination	...	1,238
Number accepted	... ..	735
Number tested	... ..	640
Number of positive reactors	...	136 (i.e. 21.25%)
Number given B.C.G.	... ..	486
Number X-rayed	... ..	105

The X-ray results were as follows.—

Pulmonary tuberculosis	...	...	1
Calcified Hilar Glands	...	...	3
Calcified Primary Complex	...	...	10
Other abnormalities	...	...	7
Nil abnormal	...	...	84
Total	...	...	<hr/>105 <hr/>

Conversion tests were done on some of those who had been vaccinated with B.C.G., with the following results:—

Children born in 1944.

Number tested	...	...	199
Number positive reactors	...	...	190
Number negative reactors	...	...	1
Number not read	...	...	8

An annual check was made on those done the previous year.

Children born in 1943.

Number tested	...	...	69
Number positive reactors	...	...	67
Number of negative reactors	...	...	—
Number not read	...	...	2

Owing to the shortage of staff, the B.C.G. Vaccination programme has fallen behind. However, it is hoped that this will be rectified in the near future.

Tuberculin Testing of 5-year-old Children.

Number tested	...	...	1,415
Number found positive	...	...	100
Number who had had B.C.G.	...	...	36
Number sent for X-ray	...	...	64

X-ray Results—

Primary focus	...	...	3
Healing primary	...	...	1
Calcified hilar glands	...	...	2
Enlarged hilar nodes	...	...	2
Calcified primary	...	...	4
Hilar adenitis	...	...	1
Bilateral cervical ribs	...	...	1
N.A.D.	...	...	40
			<hr/> 54 <hr/>

The Chest Physician supplied the following particulars of notified tuberculosis in children:—

<i>Pulmonary Tuberculosis</i>	Infectious	...	1
	Non-infectious	...	80
<i>Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis</i>	Glandular	...	4
	Joints	...	3
	Other organs	...	15
	Abdomen	...	—

At the beginning of 1958, 10 children were undergoing treatment in hospitals. During the year, 13 patients were discharged and 11 new cases admitted; 8 children were still undergoing treatment at the end of the year.

(j) Vaccination and Immunisation.

1,478, 29.8% of those examined had been successfully vaccinated against smallpox, and 3,092 or 62% had been immunised against diphtheria and whooping cough.

(k) Clothing and Footwear.

On the whole these were adequate.

7. SUBSEQUENT EXAMINATIONS.

In following up defects found during examination of this and previous years, 4,542 children were seen. In this connection the school nurses made 548 home visits.

8. ARRANGEMENTS FOR TREATMENT.

The services available for medical, surgical and dental treatment are as follows:—

Greenesfield Health Centre.

Minor Ailments	...	Monday—Friday	...	9.0-9.30 a.m. 4.0-4.30 p.m.
Ultra-violet Ray				
Therapy	...	Tuesday and Friday	..	1.30-3.30 p.m.
Physiotherapy	...	By appointment.		
Orthoptic Treatment		By appointment.		
Dental Treatment	...	Monday—Friday	...	4.0-4.30 p.m. and daily by appointment.
Immunisation	...	Saturday	...	...10.0-11.30 a.m.

Carr Hill Health Centre.

Minor Ailments	...	Monday—Friday	...	9.0-9.30 a.m.
		Saturday	...	9.0-10.0 a.m.
Orthoptic Treatment		By appointment.		
Dental Treatment	...	Monday—Friday	...	4.0-4.30 p.m. and daily by appointment.

The consultant services available by appointment are:—

<i>Ophthalmologist</i> (<i>Refraction Clinic</i>)	Tuesday and Saturday 9.0—11.0 a.m. at Greenesfield Health Centre.
<i>Orthopaedic Surgeon:</i>	Alternate Wednesdays 9.0 a.m. at Greenesfield Health Centre.
<i>Dermatologist:</i> ..	At Queen Elizabeth or Bensham Hospital.
<i>Throat, Nose and Ear Surgeon:</i> ...	At Children's Hospital.
<i>Psychiatrist:</i> ...	By arrangement with St. Thomas's Clinic or Newcastle General Hospital.

(a) Cleanliness.

72 heads were cleansed by nursing assistants. During the year, special combs were lent on 28 occasions, and 114 combs were sold. Cleansing lotion is available for use at home.

(b) Treatment of Minor Ailments and Diseases of the Skin.

The number of children attending the clinic for treatment was similar to last year.

Those who attended for treatment were:—

	<i>No. attending.</i>		<i>No. Treatments.</i>	
Ringworm Scalp	1	...	5	
Ringworm Body	—	...	—	
Scabies	33	...	182	
Impetigo	89	...	608	
Other skin conditions ...	468	...	3,333	
External eye conditions ...	115	...	511	
Otitis media	53	...	364	
Other ear conditions ...	50	...	186	
Miscellaneous	602	...	3,516	
Totals ...	1,411	...	8,705	

It will be noted that while no cases of ringworm of the body were seen, there was one case of ringworm of the scalp, and there was an increase in the number of cases of scabies.

(c) Treatment of Ophthalmic Defects.

94 clinics were attended by Mr. H. Vernon-Ingram and Mr. Arkle. 1,143 children were seen. Glasses were prescribed for 819 children and 51 cases were found to be already wearing suitable glasses.

Errors of refraction found were:—

Hypermetropia	...	...	...	...	219
Myopia	...	...	...	...	115
Hypermetropic astigmatism	...	...	...	...	118
Myopic astigmatism	...	...	...	...	48
Irregular astigmatism	...	...	...	...	1
Compound myopic astigmatism	...	...	...	...	139
Compound hypermetropic astigmatism	...	...	...	...	540
Mixed astigmatism	...	...	...	...	108

In addition to these the following defects were recorded:—

Strabismus	...	...	...	...	155
Amblyopia exanopsia	...	...	...	...	12
Blepharitis	...	...	...	...	1
Amblyopia	...	...	...	...	18
Nystagmus	...	...	...	...	2
Corneal nebulae	...	...	...	...	2
Corneal opacity	...	...	...	...	1
Cataract	...	...	...	...	3
Overaction I.O.	...	...	...	...	1

The waiting list has now been reduced from 54 at the end of 1957 to 46 at the end of this year. We can now offer refraction without any undue delay.

Orthoptic Clinic.

During this year, 1,912 attendances were made for the following reasons:—

Occlusions	...	...	...	244
Observations	...	...	...	1,007
Treatments	...	...	...	340
Patients treated	...	...	...	142
Reports	...	...	...	157
Discharges	...	...	...	71
New cases registered	...	...	...	85

Discharges.

Classification—

Functional cures	...	...	22 (co-operative parents)
Satisfactory cosmetic appearance with improved binocular function	...	...	6
Cosmetic cures with operation and orthopic treatment	...	...	20

No improvement (intractable amblyopia) operation not necessary for cosmetic appearance	...	...	...	...	5
No co-operation and failed to attend	...	...	...	...	17
1 child was killed in motor accident.					

The parents of these children are willing for operation in most cases and co-operation is improving.

94 children were admitted to the Royal Victoria Infirmary and Fleming Memorial Hospital for surgical correction. The waiting list for hospital treatment is now quite short.

In 568 instances children failed to keep their appointment at the clinic.

Staff

In June, Miss Maughan, who had served for some years as the orthoptist working under Mr. Ingram and Mr. Arkle, left to follow her employment in California, U.S.A. Very fortunately we were able to secure the services of Miss Rudd, who commenced her duties in September, so that very little time was lost in effecting the continuity of treatment which is so essential in the follow-up of cases of squint.

(d) Throat, Nose and Ear Defects.

At the Children's Hospital, 208 tonsillectomies and 32 operations for other conditions of the nose and throat were performed. 13 children had operative treatment there for ear defects. The school medical officers dealt with 53 cases of chronic otorrhoea, and with 25 cases requiring the removal of cerumen from the external meatus.

(c) Treatment of Dental Defects.

(Report of the Principal Dental Officer.)

Staff.

The staff of the dental department consists of the principal dental officer, three full-time and one part-time dental officers, five dental attendants and one clerk: . The dental laboratory is staffed by one senior technician in charge and one senior technician.

During the year three dental attendants resigned—Miss Bagnall, Miss Smith and Miss Grass—with effect from 21/6/58, 14/8/58 and 8/10/58 respectively. Two other dental attendants, Miss Carter and Mrs. Tyrrell, were appointed with effect from 21/7/58 and 1/9/58 respectively.

As in previous years, approximately two-thirds of the dental officers' time was devoted to school children, the remaining time being given to the priority dental services.

Dental Treatment.

During the year routine inspections were increased by 948, and special inspections reduced by a further 314, making an annual reduction in specials since 1950 of 1,023. This reduction in the number of specials is due, in my opinion, to two factors. First, the good fortune we have enjoyed in being able to keep our dental officer strength so high as we have done, and second, the increasing number of children who obviously attend a private practitioner regularly. As a result of intelligent professional observation, because no actual figures are obtainable, it was found that of all children examined 8.7% went to a private practitioner regularly for treatment, and in one school the relevant figure was 35.3%. Of those requiring treatment, only 1.2% were treated privately, and of those found to be dentally fit 23.6% had private treatment, and in one school 96.2% of those dentally fit had had private treatment. The number of children found to require treatment, including specials, was 64.1%, and without the specials 57.8%, and the percentage of these accepting treatment, excluding casuals, was 49.4% and including casuals 60.8%. The average attendances per child was 2.0.

The dental treatment given, as shown in Table V, includes 5 crowns, and an increase of 67 orthodontic appliances fitted, and an increase of 24 dentures fitted. The number of X-rays taken was 128.

I would like to thank the staff of the dental department for their work during the year, and the schools' staffs for their help and co-operation.

Table V summarises the dental treatment given to school children during the year.

J. WHITEHOUSE,

Principal School Dental Officer.

(f) Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.

35 cases attended for the first time the orthopaedic consultation clinics held by Mr. A. E. Bremner, F.R.C.S. In addition, he re-examined 80 cases he had previously seen.

The types of lesions found were as follows:—

Defects.				<i>New</i> <i>cases.</i>		<i>Old</i> <i>cases.</i>		<i>Visits.</i>
Congenital malformations	...	—	...	6	...	7		
Pes planus	... ..	...	13	...	14	35
Foot defects	... ..	...	5	...	19	36
T.B. spine	... ..	...	—	...	1	1
Osteogenesis imperfecta	...	—	...	1	...	3		
Osgood Schlatter's disease	...	1	...	—	...	2		
Spastic conditions	... ..	...	1	...	16	30
Sequelae to poliomyelitis	...	—	...	9	...	12		
Torticollis	... ..	...	—	...	2	4
Scoliosis	.. ..	...	—	...	2	4
Lordosis	... ..	...	—	...	1	3
Kyphosis	... ..	...	—	...	1	1
Poor posture	... ..	...	1	...	—	2
Genu valgum	... ..	...	—	...	4	7
Shortening of leg	... ..	...	—	...	2	3
Pains in feet	.. ..	...	—	...	1	2
Old fractures	... ..	...	1	...	—	1
Pseudo hypertrophy of calves	...	1	...	—	...	1		
Deformity of fingers	... ..	...	1	...	—	1
Exostosis	... ..	...	1	...	—	2
Detached boney fragment of knee	...	1	...	—	...	3		
Flexion contracture of fingers	...	1	...	—	...	1		
Nil abnormal detected	... ..	8	...	1	...	15	

Up until October, 1958, we had no part-time physiotherapist and during that time we had to arrange for the more urgent cases to be treated at hospital, and Mr. Midgley, the Remedial Gymnast employed by the Hospital Management Committee and who works six half-day sessions per week at Greenesfield Health Centre, went to the Open Air School one session a week. We are very much indebted to him for the work he did during this period.

From October onwards, Mrs. Pickard joined the staff. She worked six sessions a week, two at the Open Air School, two at the Cedars Special School and two at Greenesfield Clinic.

Report of Remedial Gymnast.

The following treatments were carried out, both individual and in classes, as listed below:—

INDIVIDUAL TREATMENTS

	<i>Patients.</i>			<i>Treatments.</i>	
<i>Cerebral Palsy</i>					
Spastic hemiplegia	5	...	111
Spastic monoplegia	4	...	26
Spastic diplegia	2	...	20
<i>Nerve lesions</i>					
Post-inoculation poliomyelitis	1	...	20
Post-poliomyelitis	5	...	35
<i>Traumatic injuries</i>					
Supra condylar fractures	...	23	...	137	
Fractures of radius and ulna	...	4	...	26	
Fractures of humerus	...	1	...	4	
Lower limb fractures	...	3	...	29	
Fracture dislocations	...	6	...	38	
Fractures of phalangeal joints	...	4	...	21	
<i>Tendon and Soft Tissue injuries</i>					
Wrist and elbow (tendon)	...	5	...	17	
Ankle and knee (tendon)	...	4	...	34	
Lacerations	...	2	...	18	
Effusion of knee	...	1	...	3	
Electrical burns (skin graft)	...	1	...	8	
<i>Other conditions</i>					
Torticollis	...	2	...	18	
Osgood Schlatters Disease	...	1	...	3	
Slipped femoral epiphysis	...	1	...	18	
Totals			...	75	586

CHEST CONDITIONS

				<i>Patients.</i>		<i>Treatments.</i>
Asthma	...	...	...	15	...	113
Recurring bronchitis	...	...	...	6	...	47
Rhonchi chest	...	...	...	12	...	81
Atelectasis	...	...	...	4	...	41
Harrison's Sulcus	...	...	...	1	...	3
Basal infection	...	...	...	1	...	15
Broncho-vascular shadow	...	...	...	1	...	18
Poor chest	...	...	...	1	...	17
(treated by breathing exercises)				—		—
				41	...	335
				—		—

POSTURAL DEFECTS

				<i>Patients.</i>		<i>Treatments.</i>
Scoliosis	...	...	...	4	...	25
Lordosis	...	...	...	3	...	19
Kyphosis	...	...	...	3	...	19
Poor thoracic posture	...	...	...	12	...	105
				—		—
				22	...	168
				—		—

FOOT, ANKLE AND TOE DEFECTS

The treatments of defects of the foot and ankle, and of toe deformities is carried out in classes, except the more severe of the cases, which are treated individually.

The length of the course of treatment varies in accordance with the progress, in some cases more than one course of treatment being necessary.

				<i>Patients.</i>		<i>Treatments.</i>
Pes planus ...	}	...	...	172	...	938
Pes valgus ...		...	...
Hallux valgus		...	...	

OPEN AIR SCHOOL

The remedial gymnast attended the open air school one session per week, from April 22nd until October 7th. The children treated were as follows:—

	<i>Patients.</i>	<i>Treatments.</i>
Bronchiectasis (postural drainage)	8	52
Poor chest expansion ...	29	131
Recurring bronchitis ...		
Asthma		
Atelectasis		
	<hr/> 37 <hr/>	<hr/> 183 <hr/>

Physiotherapy.

Since October 1958, physiotherapy has been carried out at the Cedars Special School, Joicey Road Open Air School and at Greenesfield Clinic.

The physiotherapist has spent two sessions a week at the Cedars Special School, where work has been confined to the treatment of cerebral palsy and the after-effects of anterior poliomyelitis. The aim has been to re-educate incorrect patterns of movement, prevent deformity where possible, strengthen weak muscle groups and to improve general functional ability.

At the Open Air School, the emphasis has been upon teaching parents simple breathing exercises and where necessary postural drainage, so that treatment may be carried out twice daily in the home. Parents are also instructed how they can help their children live with asthma without fear. Unfortunately many parents are unco-operative and the physiotherapist attends this school twice a week to give postural drainage, breathing exercises, and posture classes.

Two sessions a week are held at Greenesfield Clinic. These are devoted to the treatment of patients referred from the orthopaedic clinic and from the school medical officers.

<i>Conditions treated.</i>	<i>No. of patients.</i>	<i>No. of treatments.</i>
Foot deformities	22	129
Postural deformities	17	72
Asthma	19	146
Bronchitis	10	62
Bronchiectasis	11	116
Atelectasis	2	6
Anterior poliomyelitis ..	9	56
Cerebral palsy	20	79
Facial paralysis	2	18
Internal derangement of knee..	1	4
Cervical scoliosis	1	11
Hydrocephalus	1	6

(g) Ultra-Violet Ray Therapy.

Courses of ultra-violet ray therapy were recommended for:—

Respiratory infections	...	...	...	2
Bronchitis	...	...	...	4
Asthma	...	...	...	1
General debility and subnormal nutrition				20
Anorexia	...	...	...	10
Acne	...	...	...	19
Other skin conditions	...	...	...	11
Adenitis	...	...	...	5
Nervous symptoms	...	...	...	1
Repeated colds	...	...	...	11
Alopecia	...	...	...	1
				—
				85
				—

9. INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND IMMUNISATION.

Cases of infectious disease occurring among school children were:—

Measles	...	...	...	129
Scarlet fever	...	...	...	61
Whooping cough	...	...	...	39
Meningococcal infection	...	...	...	1
Poliomyelitis: paralytic	...	...	...	—
Poliomyelitis: non-paralytic	...	...	...	—
Pneumonia	...	...	...	19
Dysentery	...	...	...	14
Scabies	...	...	...	33
Food poisoning	...	...	...	4
Infective encephalitis	...	...	...	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	1

Booster doses of Diphtheria P.T.A.P. were offered to infant entrants at school. 1,121 accepted and were re-immunised.

At Greenesfield House 153 children were immunised against diphtheria alone, 2 against diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus, and 24 “ booster ” doses were given. The doctors of the area reported the following inoculations given by them to school children:—

Diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus	...	...	4
Diphtheria and pertussis	...	...	3
Diphtheria (booster)	...	...	83
Diphtheria	...	...	2
Vaccination	...	...	13
Re-vaccination	...	...	11

One child was vaccinated by the Local Authority.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination.

During the year 7,358 school children were completely vaccinated, i.e. 2 injections, 3,158 by health department staff and 4,200 by general practitioners.

206 children were given 'booster' injections, and 598 had received the first injection of the course.

10. REPORT ON PHYSICAL EDUCATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1958.

I beg to submit a report on Physical Education for the year ended 31st December, 1958. It should be noted that the previous Organiser of Physical Education, Mr. H. L. Atkinson, retired in May, 1958, after a period of thirty years' service with the Gateshead Education Committee and I am indebted to him for some of the facts and figures which follow.

Introduction.

Physical Education in Gateshead schools continues to have a variety of aspects, notably physical training, games, dance, swimming and athletics. In addition to these activities some schools have made attempts to foster outdoor interests such as camping, hiking and school journeys.

All schools are able to offer at least physical training and games as part of their programmes and generally there is considerable enthusiasm for these subjects by both teachers and children. Difficult conditions obtain in many schools and here the programme is more limited, particularly in winter months.

The scope of Physical Education has increased enormously during the last ten years and modern thought indicates that a wide programme should be offered so that each child can develop according to his age, aptitude and ability. The limited conception of the old physical training lesson as a series of exercises for different parts of the body is fast disappearing, and in its place has come the philosophy that a series of phases of training emphasising such qualities as mobility, strength and agility are more suitable. The process of change is naturally a gradual one and it is noted that in Gateshead much basic work in the newer directions is to be done with both teachers and children.

Physical Training.

(a) Infants.

Most infants' schools are able to offer at least one period each day of physical training, normally taking the form of work with

small apparatus such as balls, hoops, ropes and bean-bags. Some schools are able to combine this work with the use of the larger climbing, heaving and scrambling equipment, and the greatest success is achieved where this is possible. Newer types of climbing apparatus have recently been placed in some infants' schools and the children and teachers find much enjoyment in the lessons where this apparatus is used.

(b) Juniors.

The junior departments normally offer at least three periods per week of physical training and they continue the work of the infants' schools in the use of small apparatus together with leading-up activities for more advanced gymnastics and major games. Some schools, however, have not fully implemented the suggestions put forward by the Ministry of Education in the publications *Planning the Programme* and *Moving and Growing*, and many demonstration lessons have been given to point out the unlimited opportunities of junior physical training. Some thought will also have to be given to the provision of climbing and heaving apparatus, possibly of the fixed type, in those schools where this has not yet been done. Much more use could be made of individual mats for lying kneeling and sitting activities and it will be necessary to conduct courses for teachers to ensure that the best use is made of the available apparatus.

(c) Senior Boys.

Schools usually offer two or three periods of physical training each week and at this level much depends upon the staff and facilities. Unfortunately, there is an acute shortage of specialist teachers of Physical Education in Gateshead and much of the work in senior boys' departments has considerable room for development. Modern trends, such as circuit and weight training and the application of movement principles to gymnastics, are as yet unfamiliar to most schools in the Borough and generally work proceeds on the older orthodox and more formal lines. It is pleasing to note the willingness and enthusiasm of many teachers who are obliged to work under difficult conditions.

The hiring of halls for physical training lessons for senior pupils is a great help to many schools and recently All Saints' R.C. and St. Joseph's R.C. Schools were able to have their first indoor lessons as a result of the use of the parish hall in Rochester Place.

(d) Senior Girls.

A similar situation to that of the senior boys obtains for girls and there is again considerable room for development, particularly in movement training. The shortage of specialist teachers is even greater in this sphere and it is unfortunate that present conditions

are unlikely to attract the three-year trained specialist to many of the girls' secondary departments. Tribute should be paid to those teachers who have made efforts to give the girls in their charge an adequate programme of physical training.

Games.

Games present little problem at the infant and junior level as good use can be made of schoolyards and indoor space, but the position for senior children can only be described as "desperate"

A recent survey of the position revealed the following:—

<i>No. of Departments with Senior Boys and/or Girls</i>	<i>Number offering Facilities for Field Games</i>
27	6

Of the six schools offering facilities for field games two do so only for single classes and one uses a very poor ground (Salt-meadows). The only school with adequate facilities at the senior level is the Girls' Grammar School, and no other senior girl in Gateshead is ever able to play a game on a grass surface. The number of boys having field games during school time is rather less than 5% of those registered.

The situation will improve with the opening of the new Shuttles ground but it should be noted that considerable damage has already been done to the cricket square and the newly sown grass. Breckenbeds has been out of use for schools for a considerable period and will require rehabilitation before it can be used. The lack of changing facilities and lavatory accommodation at this field is a handicap to those who may use it.

Dance.

Many senior girls' and junior departments are able to offer some form of dance teaching. This varies from Modern Dance (Girls' Grammar School) to English, Scottish, European and Irish Dancing. It is also worthy of note that one boys' school (Brighton Avenue) reaches a very high standard in Morris Dancing and teams of boys from this school have given exhibitions in many parts of Durham and Northumberland.

Generally the standard of dancing is good, but teachers find themselves handicapped by having to work constantly to gramophone records and it is hoped that the proposed employment of pianists will help to raise the standard to an even higher level.

The Gateshead Schools' Folk Dance Association holds a Festival of Dance each two years and this gives opportunity for

children from various schools to dance together, and also to see exhibition items of a very wide variety. The next Festival is due to take place in April, 1959. Notable success in Irish dancing has been achieved by St. Joan of Arc and Corpus Christi R.C. Schools, whilst a very high standard of Scottish dancing is maintained at Carr Hill Secondary School.

Swimming.

The Committee's professional instructors have continued to do excellent work and their abilities have been recognised at national and county level. The boys' instructor was recently named as the best diving coach at the European games and the girls' instructor was elected as manager of the girls' Northumberland and Durham County Team.

During the year it was considered advisable to change the system of awards for swimming in Gateshead and children are now able to obtain a variety of certificates suitable to their abilities. The emphasis remains on the teaching of non-swimmers and excellent results have been achieved in this sphere. Some junior classes now attend as mixed groups and this experiment has proved to be successful. An average of 1,100 boys and 900 girls attend Mulgrave and Shipcote Baths each week for swimming instruction, and it is a tribute to the Baths Superintendent, who is always most co-operative, and his staff, that no difficulties or complaints have arisen.

A new method of teaching beginners was introduced by the boys' instructor during the year and such has been its success that interest has been aroused throughout the county. He was able to demonstrate his work with a class of boys from Low Fell School at a recent conference on swimming in Durham.

Life Saving.

This aspect of swimming continues to have an appeal for many children and the Royal Life Saving Society's examinations are taken at frequent intervals by both boys and girls.

A detailed report of results in both swimming and life saving can be seen as an appendix to this report.

Athletics.

Facilities for the coaching of athletics in schools are poor and the standard of performance throughout the town is rather below average. Efforts have been made by a number of teachers to foster an interest in the sport, and the Youth Stadium has obvious possibilities during the season. Whilst some work can be done in play-

grounds and halls, throwing and jumping events require less restricted spaces for successful coaching, and it is pleasing to note that athletics areas are scheduled for inclusion in all new playing field development. Many secondary departments would do well to consider a training period of greater length for children before they take part in competitive sports.

Teachers' Courses.

During the latter part of the year a *Swimming Course* for serving teachers was held at Mulgrave Baths on Wednesday evenings. The response was excellent and whilst the course catered mainly for non-swimmers, teachers were given the opportunity of taking the awards of the Royal Life Saving Society.

Twenty-six teachers attended over a period of ten weeks and as a result one man obtained the Instructor's Certificate of the Royal Life Saving Society, four obtained the Bronze Medallion, and sixteen men and women were taught to swim to varying degrees of proficiency. The five teachers who had little success were handicapped by irregular attendance.

A Men Teachers' Gymnastic Club was also organised and now meets each Wednesday evening at the Girls' Grammar School gymnasium. The purpose of the Club is to foster an interest in Physical Education, and to give teachers an opportunity of taking part in work which incorporates modern developments in the subject. The Club is conducted by the Organiser of Physical Education and twenty-two men teachers have enrolled so far. These teachers have had the opportunity to undertake more advanced vaulting and agility, circuit training, basket-ball, potted sports and minor games.

Physical Education in the Youth Service.

Some valuable work in Physical Education is done through the Youth Service and the Committee's Youth Officer has done much to foster this aspect of club life.

Some twenty classes in fourteen different centres have been organised during the year and the activities covered have been Country Dancing, Keep Fit, Physical Training and Cricket Coaching. A total of 480 boys and girls have been attracted to the various classes.

In addition to these classes the following physical education activities have taken place:—

- (a) Country Dance Festival.
- (b) Netball League and Tournament.
- (c) Athletic Sports Meeting.

- (d) Swimming Gala.
- (e) Swimming Training Scheme.
- (f) Association Football League.
- (g) Athletics Coaching Scheme.

Activities Outside School Hours.

Many Gateshead teachers devote much of their spare time to physical education outside school hours and it is a pleasure to be able to record their activities. There are School Organisations for Swimming, Athletics, Cricket, Dance, Netball and Association Football. As yet there is no central body controlling schools' Rugby Football in the town, but this game has its adherents at the Boys' Grammar School and at Harlow Green School.

Schools' Swimming Association.

This Association continued its good work of previous years and two Galas were held during the Summer Term. The preliminary gala attracted 300 competitors from 45 school departments, and boys and girls from 21 school departments went forward to swim in the final gala which was opened by His Worship the Mayor, Alderman J. W. Roberts, and attended by many members of the Education Committee.

The Swimming Association was also able to stage the Northumberland and Durham Schools' Gala (Boys' Events) at Shipcote Baths and Gateshead was fully represented in this event.

Four Gateshead schools' swimmers were selected to represent Northumberland and Durham in the National Schools' Championships held at Rochdale and three of these swimmers were awarded Championship Certificates.

Schools' Athletics Association.

This Association held its 21st Annual Championships at the Youth Stadium during June. Sixty-seven schools were represented and 500 competitors took part. St. Joan of Arc R.C. School were successful in the Senior Boys' Competition and the Secondary Technical School won the Senior Girls' Section. The Junior Schools' Competitions were won by Prior Street Primary School and Low Fell and King Edward Schools (jointly).

A new challenge trophy, "The Mary Gunn Shield", was obtained by the Association for presentation to the runners-up in the Senior Girls' Section. This was won by Brighton Avenue Girls' School.

The Association was represented at the Durham County Schools' meeting and Gateshead competitors gained points in the boys' high jump, half-mile and putting the weight events. For the first time since the Durham Schools' Association was formed, Gateshead was not represented on the County team for the National Championships.

Schools' Folk Dance Association.

Preparations have commenced for the Festival to be held in 1959, and 26 schools have offered to take part in the massed dancing or to give demonstrations. The Association is looking forward to a successful event in which it is hoped that 400 children will take part.

Schools' Football Association.

The Schools' Football Association recommenced its activities in September after a stormy period in its history. No football was arranged during the latter half of the 1957-58 season as a protest against the inadequacy of facilities in the town, and it was only after lively discussion that the members agreed to start in September.

Many of the difficulties concerning grounds remain, but 20 senior school teams and 13 junior teams are at present fulfilling a comprehensive list of fixtures. The Gateshead Boys' Team had some success and after a number of victories were defeated in the English Schools' Shield competition by South Shields. Five boys were selected for trial by the Durham County S.F.A. but none was eventually chosen for the County side.

The Association reports that excellent relations have been maintained with the directors of Gateshead F.C. who have co-operated most willingly in allowing the use of their ground on occasions.

The boys of Gateshead owe their thanks to the officials of the Schools' Football Association for their patience and tolerance during a most difficult period.

Schools' Cricket Association.

Although seriously handicapped by lack of suitable pitches and by bad weather the Schools' Cricket Association continued its activities as in previous years.

Sixteen teams took part in a knock-out competition which was eventually won by All Saints' R.C. School with Redheugh Boys' School as runners-up.

Two games against other Associations were played and Gateshead lost to Newcastle (narrowly) and beat Ashington.

The advent of artificial wickets at proposed new playing fields should do much to raise the standard of schools' cricket in the town.

Thanks are due to North Durham Cricket Club and Gateshead Fell Cricket Club for their continued support of the schoolboy game, and the use of their grounds, without which any competition would not have been possible.

Schools' Netball Association.

Whilst this Association does not operate any competition, many games are played on a friendly basis and there is much enthusiasm for Netball amongst the senior girls of the town. An Annual Rally is held in February of each year and most schools are able to take part.

It is worthy of note that St. Joan of Arc R.C. School this year reached the final of the Catholic Schools' competition for Northumberland and Durham Counties. They were beaten after a close match with Willington Quay. The standard of Netball seen was good, and indeed remains generally high throughout the town.

Rugby Football.

Gateshead Boys' Grammar School plays Rugby Football with enthusiasm and success. The senior rugby clubs—North Durham and Gateshead Fell—continue to offer their support, and without the use of their grounds no fixtures with other Grammar Schools could be made. The provision of rugby pitches should obviously have some consideration during playing field development.

Gateshead Grammar School is rightly proud of the fact that its captain of Rugby Football has for the last eight years been a member of the Durham County Schools' team and he brought further honour to the school by being selected to play for England against France in Paris. This boy also captained the Durham Schools' Under Eighteen Team.

Evening Institute Classes.

During the year classes were organised in Keep-Fit, Scottish Dancing and Country Dancing. These classes attracted 171 men and women and although lack of suitable premises and teachers is a handicap, there is room for further development in this field of adult education.

Conclusion.

In conclusion, I look forward to considerable extension of activity in almost all fields of Physical Education and the prospect

of new schools and playing fields gives much hope for the future. The co-operation of the teachers of Gateshead has always been freely given and there is an eagerness to see that the boys and girls of this town have equal, if not better, opportunities than in comparable local authorities.

I would like to thank the Director and Deputy Director for their advice and assistance at all times, and to offer my appreciation to the members of the Education Office staff for their unfailing help and courtesy.

J. G. JONES,

December, 1958.

Organiser of Physical Education.

APPENDIX.

Swimming and Life Saving Results for Year ended 31st December, 1958.

During the year the system of awards was changed. Up to 1st September boys and girls could take a Learner's Certificate (25 yards) and a Proficiency Certificate (50 yards Breast Stroke, 25 yards Back Stroke, Neat Dive and Surface Dive).

It was considered that more scope should be given owing to increased standards of proficiency and from 1st September onwards boys and girls could take a Learner's Certificate (25 yards), 100 yards Certificate, 440 yards Certificate, 880 yards Certificate, Proficiency Certificate (440 yards, 25 yards each of Front Crawl, Back Crawl and Breast Stroke, Neat Dive and Surface Dive).

The following tables show the successes obtained:—

TABLE 1 (up to 1st September).

		<i>Boys.</i>		<i>Girls.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
Learner's Certificate	...	317	...	231	...	548
Proficiency Certificate	...	202	...	159	...	361
Grand Total	...					909

TABLE 2 (1st September to 31st December).

		<i>Boys.</i>		<i>Girls.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
Learner's Certificate	...	395	...	85	...	480
100 yards	...	181	...	123	...	304
440 yards	...	68	...	124	...	192
880 yards	...	176	...	77	...	253
Proficiency Certificate	...	9	...	—	...	9
Grand Total	...					1,238

It is significant that by using a new method of teaching learners the boys' instructor was able to produce 395 swimmers in one term, whereas by the older methods he only produced 317 swimmers in two terms. During the year 2,147 certificates were obtained.

LIFE SAVING.

The following successes were recorded during the year:—

	<i>Boys.</i>		<i>Girls.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
Intermediate Certificate ..	44	...	52	...	96
Bronze Medallion ...	85	...	86	...	171
Bronze Cross	54	...	25	...	79
Award of Merit	4	...	3	...	7
Grand Total ...					353

The Education Committee paid the entry fees for the candidates for Bronze Medallion only and the remaining awards were taken at the expense of the boys and girls concerned.

11. CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES.

The co-operation and assistance of the Director of Education, Welfare Officers and teachers during the year was greatly appreciated, as were the services of the N.S.P.C.C. Officer, Mr. F. Maidment.

12. HANDICAPPED PUPILS.

Children found during the year to require special education treatment were:—

Deaf	2
Partially deaf .	1
Blind	—
Partially sighted ...	—
Educationally subnormal ...	70
Delicate	43
Defective speech ...	48
Epileptic	1
Maladjusted	1
Physically handicapped ...	2

Supervision was given to 15 children who have been supplied with hearing aids and are attending ordinary schools.

Mental Defect.

130 children were given mental assessments. Of these 13 were found to be ineducable. For the remainder the following recommendations were made:—

School for E.S.N. Pupils	...	...	...	8
Class for retarded pupils	...	...	...	63
Special tuition in ordinary schools			...	28
No special educational treatment	.		...	16
Opinion deferred—? ineducable	...		...	2

Classes for Backward Pupils.

Two junior classes, one at Askew Road and one at Sunderland Road, two senior classes at High West and one infants class at Victoria Road cater for retarded pupils. It would seem that there is still an increasing need for special classes for retarded pupils.

Special Schools.

Joicey Road Open Air School for Delicate Children.

At the end of the year 146 pupils were in attendance at the school. 55 children were admitted during 1958 and 53 were discharged.

The reasons for discharge were: 36 were fit (including 14 in the 12-14 years age range who should benefit from a period in normal school before leaving school), 5 were of age, 3 were admitted to hospital school, 4 were recommended for special educational treatment, 3 of whom accepted (2 to residential schools), and 5 moved from the district.

The care shown by the Youth Employment Officer in finding suitable employment of children leaving school is much appreciated.

The school celebrated its twenty-fifth birthday in 1958. At a party, on May 21st, we were happy to welcome Miss E. R. Telford, Headmistress from the opening of the school until her retirement in 1956, and Mr. William Winter, Director of Education during the school's early years. The children and staff enjoyed a birthday cake made by the deputy head teacher.

Three open days were held during the summer, when parents visited the school, saw their children at work and were able to discuss their progress with the staff.

During the year groups of children made the following visits in connection with the work of the group:—

Saltwell Park Museum (3 visits)
Newcastle Quayside
Science and Engineering Museum, Newcastle.

Groups also attended, with other children in the town, the Scottish Children's Theatre, the Schools' Music Festival, the Theatre Royal (Newcastle), the Exhibition and Talks (Book Week), and the Carol Festival.

In September, a group of 18 girls began a much appreciated course of housecraft and cookery at the Low Fell Domestic Science Centre where the teacher in charge has planned a course especially adapted to their needs.

The school adopted S.S. *Shariston*, through the British Ship Adoption Society, in December, and were happy to send her captain and crew letters, Christmas cards and Christmas decorations.

The " Cedars " School for Handicapped Children.

The number of children attending the school during the year was 32, of whom 15 were resident. The school accepts resident handicapped children from outside the Borough.

Children were admitted to the school for the following conditions:—

Cerebral Palsy	...	...	...	...	8
Post-poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	6
Accidents (traumatic hemiplegia, amputations, etc.)	...	...	...	...	5
Tuberculosis—after effects	...	...	...	...	3
Haemophilia	...	...	...	...	2
Post Meningitis	...	...	...	...	1
Perthe's Hip	...	...	...	...	1
Imperforate anus	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital deformity	...	...	...	...	1
Friedrich's ataxia	...	...	...	...	1
Muscular dystrophy	...	...	...	...	1
Oppenheim's disease	...	...	...	...	1
Rheumatic heart	...	...	...	...	1
Fragilitas ossium	...	...	...	...	1
Haemangioma—post-operative	...	...	...	...	1
					—
					34
					—

Of the children who left during 1958, one boy had been placed by Newcastle Authority, and of the children admitted one boy came to us from Newcastle.

Two children left for employment, but both are difficult cases and have not yet been placed in employment.

Two who left went to normal schools, and one was transferred to Joicey Road Open Air School.

At the end of July Miss E. I. Roden ceased duties as Matron of the school.

From the 8th September, Mrs. A. Tron, S.R.N., undertook duties as acting matron, pending the appointment of someone else to the post.

Hindley Hall for Educationally Subnormal Pupils.

During the past year the number of boys in residence has risen to 50. They are drawn from various authorities as follows:—

Gateshead	...	...	...	14
Newcastle	...	...	...	10
Co. Durham	...	...	...	14
South Shields	...	...	...	3
Kent	...	...	...	3
West Hartlepool	...	...	...	3
Birkenhead	...	...	...	1
Suffolk	...	...	...	1
Brighton	...	...	...	1

School Leavers. Eleven boys have left of age and of these eight are known to be in regular employment. No definite information is available regarding the remaining three.

Six boys were withdrawn for various reasons, including constant absconding and theft. Of these, two have subsequently been committed to approved schools.

Staffing. There is still instability on the teaching side, and we will be reduced to three assistant masters next term. Our establishment here is for 5 assistants.

School Work, Hobbies and Activities.

Fourteen boys were prepared and confirmed at Bywell St. Peter's Church by the Bishop of Newcastle. After the service the boys were greatly pleased to meet the Bishop and share a meal with him at Bywell Vicarage.

Our Army Cadet Company continues to flourish and was favourably reported upon by Brigadier Blackie during his annual inspection. Three lads were chosen for 4/5 Battalion (Northumberland Cadet) .22 rifle team. This team was placed second in the inter-battalion shoot and the boys were presented with runner-up medals by the County Commandant. A number of highly successful week-end adventure and initiative training exercises based upon

the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme have been held. Eight boys will be taking the Combined Cadet Forces Certificate 'A' (Part One) examination early next term.

A Boys' Brigade Company has been formed to cater for the needs of our younger boys, and the Education Committee has kindly granted the sum of £20 to meet the initial cost of uniform. Work in the classroom has shown steady progress and many interesting models have been made in the woodwork shop. Much good work has been undertaken in the school and kitchen gardens. A changing and miscellaneous variety of live-stock has been cared for, including poultry, rabbits, pigeons and one pony.

Winter-time indoor recreational activities have included basketry, puppetry, wood-carving, woodwork and toy-making, leatherwork, raffia and simple weaving, in addition to the usual indoor games of table-tennis, billiards, draughts and dominoes, etc.

A philatelist friend of the school has taken a keen interest in our stamp club and kept it very much alive.

The play-acting, dancing and pop record clubs have also been active throughout the winter months. A full programme of sports and athletics has been pursued and a number of visits have been made to exhibitions and places of interest.

The Physical Education organiser is exploring the possibility of a number of our boys receiving swimming instruction at Shipcote Baths.

Bonfire night celebrations and Christmas parties were held and our end of terms plays watched by many friends of the school.

Health.

A high standard of health has been maintained, and it is interesting to note that during the recent influenza epidemic, though a good number of our non-resident domestic staff were affected, the incidence of illness amongst the boys were extremely slight.

Improvements.

The woodwork room has been much improved by the fitting of strip lighting.

Our projection television set which had been giving great trouble has now been replaced by a new 21" direct vision model.

The Physical Education Organiser has promised a sum of up to £50 for the provision of tubular metal scaffolding and climbing ropes for an adventure and initiative course which we hope to construct ourselves.

Despite the difficulties which from time to time beset all residential establishments, it has on the whole been a happy and successful year.

M. MORGAN,

Headmaster.

Peripatetic Teacher.

Two teachers visit both the homes and the hospitals in the Borough for the benefit of those children spending long periods away from school while undergoing treatment. At the end of the year, they were attending 6 children at home and 2 in hospital.

Pupils Educated outside the Borough.

Children in residential schools not maintained by the Local Authority are:—

Deaf	...	...	...	...	23
Partially deaf	...	...	...	...	2
Blind	...	...	...	...	5
Partially blind	...	...	...	...	3
Physically handicapped	...	...	...	...	3
Epileptic	...	...	...	...	2
Educationally subnormal	...	...	...	...	6
Maladjusted	...	...	...	...	1

The above pupils attend the following schools:—

Deaf and Partially Deaf.

St. John's, Boston Spa	...	...	5
Lawns House, Leeds	...	...	6
Northern Counties, Newcastle	...	...	14

Blind and Partially Blind.

Royal Victoria School for the Blind, Newcastle	...	...	3
Henshaw School, Manchester	...	...	1
St. Vincent's School, Liverpool	...	...	2
Preston Sch'l for Partially Sighted	...	...	1
East Anglican School for Blind	...	...	1

Physically Handicapped.

St. Vincent's Orthopaedic Hospital, Pinner, Middlesex	...	...	1
Percy Hedley School for Spastic Children, Newcastle	...	...	2

Epileptic.

Lingfield Epileptic Colony, Surrey	2
------------------------------------	-----	-----	---

Educationally Subnormal.

Pontville R.C. School, Ormskirk	...	...	3
Jesmond Dene Ho. Special School	...	...	3

Maladjusted.

Larches Houses Hostel, Preston . 1

The following table gives details relating to the education of handicapped children:—

Category.	No. on Reg'ter	No. in Ordin'y School	No. in special schools		No. on waiting list for Special Schools		Not attend- ing any school
			Day	Resid.	Day	Resid.	
Blind	6	—	—	5	—	1	—
Partially sighted.	3	—	—	3	—	—	—
Deaf	25	—	—	23	—	2	—
Partially deaf ...	3	—	—	2	—	1	—
Educationally subnormal	327	306	—	21	3	6	—
Epileptic ...	13	11	—	2	—	1	—
Maladjusted ...	2	1	—	1	—	1	—
Physically handicapped	55	14	24	17	1	1	2
Speech defect ...	56	56	—	—	—	—	—
Delicate ...	138	8	129	1	8	—	—
Totals ...	628	396	153	75	12	13	2

SPEECH THERAPY.

Report by the Speech Therapist.

During the year ending December, 1958, 56 children have been attending the speech clinic for treatment. The number of boys and girls and the types of defect are as follows:—

28 Stammerers	...	...	{ 7 girls
			{ 21 boys
24 Dyslalics	...	...	{ 19 boys
			{ 5 girls
1 Cleft Palate case	...		1 girl
2 Lateral Lisps	...		2 girls
1 Partially Deaf	...		1 girl

37 children were already in varying stages of treatment when the year began—18 have been admitted gradually as opportunity allowed.

New Cases.

New cases have sorted themselves out into the following categories:—

5 Stammerers	...	...	{ 3 boys
			{ 2 girls
10 Dyslalics	...	...	{ 9 boys
			{ 1 girl
2 Lateral Lispers	...		2 girls
1 Partially Deaf	...		1 girl

Discharges.

There have been 19 discharges during the past year. A detailed analysis of these is as follows:—

8 Stammerers	(6 boys (2 girls	{	2 boys —Speech now good.
			1 boy —Improved as far as as seems likely.
			2 boys —Improved; now leaving school.
			1 boy —Unwilling for further treatment.
			1 girl —Greatly improved.
			1 girl —Unwilling for further treatment.
10 Dyslalics	(8 boys (2 girls	{	4 boys —Speech normal.
			1 boy —Improved; now left school.
			3 boys—Unwilling for further treatment.
			2 girls —Speech normal.
1 Lateral Lisper			1 girl —Speech normal.

Remarks.

This year has seen the admission of a greater number of children of poor general ability for some time past. The reading ability has been practically non-existent in some cases and improvement has been only slow. It is, I think, significant that practically all cases of 'unwillingness' among those discharged have been from this group.

The stammerers still dominate the picture (as do the boys the girls), and among them the attendance and response to treatment has been an encouraging feature of the year's work.

An interesting development to report is that of the girl Cleft Palate case who, along with her brother (previously treated and now left school), has been referred recently to the plastic surgeon at the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle. It was felt that there

might be a possibility of further improvement to the lips of these two, both of whom have grown increasingly conscious of their appearance. The surgeon feels he can help them in this way and they are to be admitted to hospital for plastic surgery as soon as possible.

The partially deaf girl too is an interesting case. This is not a question of teaching lip reading (which would not come under Speech Therapy, and which she already does very well), but rather of helping the girl with articulation, and this largely on psychological grounds. She is under the ear, throat and nose surgeon, is very conscious of being different from other girls and was most anxious for some help. Not a great deal can be done for her by speech therapy, though she seems to have adjusted certain articulatory movements by continued earnest practice, but she is undoubtedly happier and gaining confidence. It is felt that she is benefiting in this sense and deserves a period of help on these grounds.

This year has seen the continued co-operation on the part of schools and a very real contribution in many cases by parents, notably some from the most unexpected quarters—the poorest type of homes.

MARGARET BARNES,

Speech Therapist.

13. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PROVISION OF MEALS.

The school meals service is able to supply all demands for mid-day meals, though the number availing themselves of meals during the school holidays is disappointing. 4,567 mid-day meals were provided daily and 14,348 children received the daily ration of milk.

14. NURSERY SCHOOLS.

There are three nursery schools accommodating 80 children below the age of 5 years. 104 first and 67 subsequent examinations were made.

Dental caries and skin conditions were the commonest defects requiring treatment. A number of cases of strabismus were immediately sent for treatment.

Defects found during the examinations requiring treatment or observation were:—

	<i>Treatment</i>		<i>Observation</i>	
Eye defect (including squint)	...	6	...	—
Skin conditions	4	...	3
Orthopaedic defects	4	...	13
Dental caries	13	...	—
Enlarged tonsils and adenoids	...	1	...	10
Enlarged glands	1	...	10
Bronchitis and other chest conditions		3	...	3
Miscellaneous defects	3	...	12
		—		—
Totals	...	35	...	51
		—		—

As regards cleanliness, 1 child was flea-bitten.

On the whole, the health of the children attending the nursery schools is satisfactory.

15. DUKESHOUSE WOOD CAMP SCHOOL, HEXHAM.

During nine months of the year, approximately March to December, parties of senior school children spend a period of two weeks at this school.

A resident nurse deals with minor ailments. She treated 881 children and reported that 3,332 treatments were given. In addition, 110 children were admitted to the sick bay.

One child was admitted to Hexham General Hospital suffering from appendicitis. Two children had lacerations sutured at hospital. Seven other children were admitted to Hexham General Hospital, one suffering from a fractured radius and ulna, two with query fractures and 4 with hyperpyrexia. Two children received anti-tetanus injections.

16. HIGHER EDUCATION.

Those pupils born in 1943 attending the Grammar School were given routine examinations. The physical condition of these children remains consistently good.

Among the 164 pupils examined the following defects were noted :—

			<i>Requiring treatment.</i>		<i>Requiring further observation.</i>
Eye defects	...	...	43	...	10
Orthopaedic defects	...	...	8	...	14
Skin defects	...	...	4	...	4
Miscellaneous defects	...		5	...	12
			—		—
			60	...	40
			—		—

Higher Education of Handicapped Pupils.

One male received training at the Royal Victoria School for the Blind.

17. MISCELLANEOUS.

There were 10 deaths in children of school age during the year. The causes of deaths were:—

Virus encephalitis	...	...	1
Medulla Blastoma	...	...	1
Severe burns—epileptic	...	...	1
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	5
Accidental electrocution	...	...	2

Additional examinations during the year by school medical officers were:—

Under Employment of Children Bye-laws	302
Of Boarded-out children (for Children's Officer)	49
From the Juvenile Courts	18
Candidates for the Teaching Profession ...	40

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION INSPECTION RETURNS

PART I

Medical Inspection of Pupils attending Maintained and Assisted Primary and Secondary Schools (including nursery and special schools).

Table A. Periodic Medical Inspections.

Age Groups inspected (by year of birth)	No. of Pupils inspected	Physical Condition of Pupils Inspected			
		Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
		No.	% of Col. 2	No.	% of Col. 2
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1954 and later	8	8	100	—	—
1953	1229	1214	98.78	15	1.22
1952	412	405	98.3	7	1.7
1951	57	55	96.5	2	3.5
1950	8	8	100	—	—
1949	3	3	100	—	—
1948	1717	1696	98.7	21	1.22
1947	78	78	100	—	—
1946	1	1	100	—	—
1945	—	—	—	—	—
1944	1236	1225	99.11	11	0.89
1943 and earlier	208	208	100	—	—
Total	4957	4901	98.87	56	1.13

Table B. Pupils found to require Treatment at Periodic Medical Inspections.

Age Groups inspected (by year of birth)	For defective vision (excluding squint)	For any of the other condit'ns recorded in Part II	Total individual pupils
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1954 and later	—	1	1
1953	2	274	275
1952	7	89	92
1951	1	11	12
1950	—	2	2
1949	—	1	1
1948	324	430	618
1947	10	16	24
1946	—	—	—
1945	—	—	—
1944	297	267	478
1943 and earlier	54	29	74
Total	695	1,120	1,577

Table C. Other Inspections.

Number of Special Inspections ...	...	6,258
Number of Re-inspections ...	...	4,542
Total ...		10,800

Table D. Infestation with Vermin.

(a) Total number of individual examinations of pupils in schools by school nurses or other authorised persons	53,607
(b) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	1,649
(c) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54(2) Education Act, 1944)	1,649
(d) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54(3) Education Act, 1944)	228

PART II

Defects found by Medical Inspection during the Year.

Table A. Periodic Inspections.

Defect Code No. (1)	Defect or Disease (2)	Entrants		Periodic Leavers		Inspections Others		Total	
		(T) (3)	(O) (4)	(T) (5)	(O) (6)	(T) (7)	(O) (8)	(T) (9)	(O) (10)
4	Skin	61	57	59	21	41	35	161	113
5	Eyes— <i>a.</i> Vision .	10	7	351	65	334	120	695	192
	<i>b.</i> Squint .	84	5	18	3	58	10	160	18
	<i>c.</i> Other .	21	12	7	10	7	14	35	36
6	Ears— <i>a.</i> Hearing	8	37	10	16	11	28	29	81
	<i>b.</i> Otitis Media	8	16	7	6	6	7	21	29
	<i>c.</i> Other ..	8	13	5	7	5	31	18	51
7	Nose and Throat .	27	432	14	63	20	191	61	686
8	Speech	9	46	5	2	20	22	34	70
9	Lymphatic Glands	1	118	4	23	2	103	7	244
10	Heart	8	64	2	16	4	23	14	103
11	Lungs	28	72	11	22	33	40	72	134
12	Developmental—								
	<i>a.</i> Hernia ...	9	11	—	3	5	1	14	15
	<i>b.</i> Other ...	18	66	10	3	37	55	65	124
13	Orthopaedic—								
	<i>a.</i> Posture ..	6	16	8	9	20	12	34	37
	<i>b.</i> Feet ...	74	96	70	39	93	107	237	242
	<i>c.</i> Other ...	21	74	19	16	24	31	64	121
14	Nervous System—								
	<i>a.</i> Epilepsy .	2	7	—	—	2	1	4	8
	<i>b.</i> Other ...	1	10	—	1	2	8	3	19
15	Psychological—								
	<i>a.</i> Development	—	10	15	—	32	13	47	23
	<i>b.</i> Stability ...	—	12	—	1	2	16	2	29
16	Abdomen	1	2	—	—	2	4	3	6
17	Other	28	23	31	7	19	13	78	43

Table B. Special Inspections.

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease			Special Inspections	
				Pupils requiring Treatment	Pupils requiring Observation
(1)	(2)			(3)	(4)
4	Skin	...	...	9	5
5	Eyes— <i>a.</i> Vision	...	...	73	25
	<i>b.</i> Squint	...	...	10	—
	<i>c.</i> Other	...	...	5	3
6	Ears— <i>a.</i> Hearing	...	...	8	4
	<i>b.</i> Otitis Media	...	...	4	1
	<i>c.</i> Other	...	...	3	6
7	Nose and Throat	...	...	10	38
8	Speech	...	...	26	13
9	Lymphatic Glands	...	...	—	3
10	Heart	...	...	1	3
11	Lungs	...	...	18	6
12	Developmental—				
	<i>a.</i> Hernia	...	...	3	3
	<i>b.</i> Other	...	...	1	2
13	Orthopaedic—				
	<i>a.</i> Posture	...	...	5	1
	<i>b.</i> Feet	...	...	11	5
	<i>c.</i> Other	...	...	8	10
14	Nervous System—				
	<i>a.</i> Epilepsy	...	...	1	1
	<i>b.</i> Other	...	...	1	3
15	Psychological—				
	<i>a.</i> Development	...	...	48	2
	<i>b.</i> Stability	...	...	—	—
16	Abdomen	...	...	1	—
17	Other	...	...	16	5

PART III

Treatment of Pupils attending Maintained and Assisted Primary and Secondary Schools (including Nursery and Special Schools).

Table A. Eye Diseases, Defective Vision and Squint.

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	123
Errors of refraction (including squint) ...	1,118
Total ...	1,241
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were prescribed	847

Table B. Diseases and Defects of Ear, Nose and Throat.

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with
Received operative treatment—	
(a) for disease of the ear	13
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	208
(c) for other nose and throat conditions	32
Received other forms of treatment	127
Total ...	380
Total number of pupils in schools who are known to have been provided with hearing aids—	
(a) in 1958	1
(b) in previous years	14

Table C. Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.

	Number of cases known to have been treated
(a) Pupils treated at clinics or out-patients departments	781
(b) Pupils treated at school for postural defects	—
Total ...	781

Table D. Diseases of the Skin.

					Number of cases known to have been treated
Ringworm—(a) Scalp	...	...	...		1
(b) Body	...	...	...		1
Scabies	...	...	...	...	33
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	89
Other skin diseases	...	...	...	...	411
				Total	535

Table E. Child Guidance Treatment.

		Number of cases known to have been treated
Pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics	...	12

Table F. Speech Therapy.

		Number of cases known to have been treated
Pupils treated by speech therapists	... ..	56

Table G. Other Treatments Given.

					Number of cases known to have been dealt with
(a) Pupils with minor ailments	...	...			602
(b) Pupils who received convalescent treatment under School Health Service arrangements	...	...	...	...	—
(c) Pupils who received B.C.G. vaccination...					486
(d) Other than (a), (b) and (c) above—					
Orthoptic	...	...	...	...	317
				Total (a)—(d)	1,405

PART IV.

Dental Inspection and Treatment carried out by the Authority.

1.	Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers:—				
	(a) At Periodic Inspections .	12,988)	Total (1)	13,812	
	(b) As Specials ...	824)			
2.	Number found to require treatment	...		8,327	
3.	Number offered treatment	... ..		8,327	
4.	Number actually treated	... ..		5,739	
5.	Number of attendances made by pupils pupils for treatment, including those recorded at 11(h)	... ..		11,777	
6.	Half days devoted to:				
	(a) Periodic (School) Inspection	87)	Total (6)	1,713	
	(b) Treatment ...	1,626)			
7.	Fillings:				
	(a) Permanent Teeth ...	4,626)	Total (7)	5,782	
	(b) Temporary Teeth ...	1,156)			
8.	Number of Teeth filled:				
	(a) Permanent Teeth ...	3,759)	Total (8)	4,816	
	(b) Temporary Teeth ...	1,057)			
9.	Extractions:				
	(a) Permanent Teeth ...	1,636)	Total (9)	6,432	
	(b) Temporary Teeth ...	4,796)			
10.	Administrations of general anaesthetics for extraction	... ..		2,478	
11.	Orthodontics:				
	(a) Cases commenced during the year	... ..		63	
	(b) Cases carried forward from previous year	...		57	
	(c) Cases completed during the year	... ..		15	
	(d) Cases discontinued during the year	... ..		2	
	(e) Pupils treated with appliances	... ..		120	
	(f) Removable appliances fitted	... ..		258	
	(g) Fixed appliances fitted	... ..		—
	(h) Total attendances	... ..		1,573	
12.	Number of pupils supplied with artificial teeth	...		71	
13.	Other operations:				
	(a) Permanent teeth ...	3,332)	Total (13)	3,362	
	(b) Temporary teeth ...	30)			

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